(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the amount of expenditure involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

1. The Rural Telecom Package announced on 22 November 1995 has the following components:

(a) Free calls increased from 150 to 250 per billing cycle for rural subscribers.

(b) Registration fee reduced from Rs. 2000.00 to Rs. 1000.00 for rural subscribers serviced by exchange systems upto 10,000 lines.

(c) The telephone rental for all rural subscribers reduced to Rs. 100.00.

(d) The amount of Installation charges presently fixed at Rs. 300/- shall be maintained upto 31.3.98 for rural subscribers.

(e) Local, STD & ISD charges reduced by 25% for first 200 calls beyond free call limit for rural subscribers.

(f) Commission payable to Panchayat PCO Franchisees enhanced from 20% to 50% on gross turn-over including the telephone to be provided to the franchisees of panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojna launhced by Deptt. of Posts.

(g) Commission to STD/ISD/PCO franchisees:

(i) in rural areas enhanced to 25% on gross turn-over per month.

(ii) Commission to PCO franchisees in non-rural areas of the predominanty hilly states/tribal and hilly areas enhanced to 20% on the gross turn-over upto Rs. 50,000.00 per month and 15% there-after.

(iii) Commission to STD PCO Franchisees in the rest of the country to be paid @ 16% upto a gross of Rs 20,000.00 per month; @ 15% on gross turn over between Rs 20,000.00 and Rs. 50,000.00 per month and @ 12% on the gross turnover beyond Rs. 50,000.00 per month.

(h) ;Group dialling facility extended upto 30 Kms in Rural hilly and tribal areas of the country and 20 kms in other areas if one of the following three condition is met:—

(i) The calling and called exchange are both in the same SDCA.

(ii) Even if the calling and the called exchange are not within the same SDCA, the corresponding SDCAs are within a distance of 30/20 Kms from each other as the case may be.

(iii) Local areas of the calling and the called exchanges have a common boundary even if they fall in adjacent SDCAs.

2. The concessional rates will take effect from 1-1-1996. The financial impact of the package will be about Rs. 200 crores per year.

Modernisation and Develoment of Meat and Poultry Proceeding

*258. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:
SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of modernisation and development plans of Government for meat and poultry processing;

(b) the financial assistance provided by Government to various organisations for training the artisans and managers engaged in the Plan schemes, during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the number of artisans and managers trained during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH

DEO): (a) to (c) Government in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various Plan schemes during 8th Plan for modernisation and development of meat and poultry processing industries, training of manpower, research and development, etc. The schemes relate to—

(a) Development of meat processing (pork, sheep, goat, rabbit and buffalo meat),

(b) Development of poultry and egg processing,

(c) Development of marketing facilities, infrastructure and transport for the meat,

(d) Research, technology and man-power development,

(e) Establishment of National Livestock Products Development Council.

In addition, the Department of Animal Husbandary and Diarying, in the Ministry of Agriculture also operates a scheme for improvement/modernisation of existing slaughter houses, establishment of new slaughter houses (abattoir) in lieu of existing ones. Under these schemes, assistance are provided as interest-free loan/grant-in-aid to State Government organisation, joint sector/assisted sector units, cooperatives, etc. for setting up/ upgrading meat and poultry processing units/abattoirs, Research and Technology Development, Training of Manpower, marketing facilities and infrastructure.

In the last 3 years, financial assistances were provided to various organisations for training of artisans and managers, state-wise details of which are given in the statement *(see below)*. Number of artisans and managers trained during the last 3 years in the meat and poultry industries is 697.

Statement

S. No.	State	Name of the Organisation	Amount (Rs.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	A.P. State Meat & Poultry Development Corporation.	4.806 lakhs.
2.	Assam	Assam Meat & Poultry Corpn. Assam Agriculture University.	10.30 lakhs.
3.	Bihar	Ranchi Agriculture University.	1.00 lakhs.
4.	Karnataka	Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore.	0.90 lakhs.
5.	Maharashtra	Bombay Veterinary College Indian Institute of Poultry Management.	5.118 lakhs.
6.	Manipur	Manipur State Poultry Farmers' Cooperative Federation. Manipur State Piggery Farmers' Cooperative Federation.	3.10 lakhs.
7.	Uttar Pradesh	U.P. Pasudan Udyog Nigam Ltd.	1.40 lakhs.

Liberal Visa Facility By Pakistan

*259. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has take some measures assuring visa clearance for the business delegation within 24 hours from the date of receipt of the request;

(b) if so, the details thereof;